

VAGARIES OF NO. 13 AS IT RELATES TO THE ORIGIN &  
SERVICE OF THE 13TH REGIMENT, N. J. VOLUNTEERS

1862-1865      EARLE

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*Compliments of Frank M Earle*  
*Philadelphia June 25<sup>th</sup> 1910*

VAGARIES OF NUMBER 13

AS IT RELATES TO THE

Origin and Service of the Thirteenth<sup>13th</sup>

Regiment,

New Jersey Volunteers

1862-1865

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HISTORICAL SKETCH

BY

Sergeant FRANK M. EARLE

Company B, Thirteenth New Jersey Volunteers

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DELIVERED AT

TWENTY-FOURTH ANNUAL REUNION

OF THE

Veteran Association of the Thirteenth N. J. Regiment

HELD AT

NEWARK, NEW JERSEY

September 14, 1909



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F Earle, Frank M

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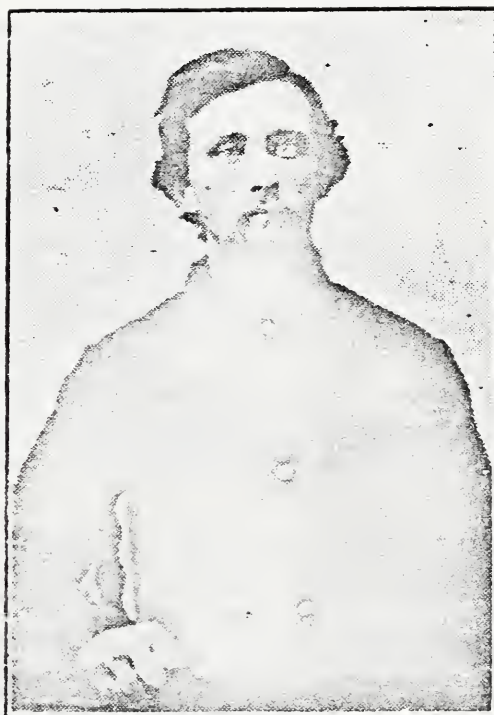
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Vegetables of number 13 as it relates to the  
origin and service of the Thirteenth regiment,  
New Jersey volunteers, 1862-1865... n.p.c.19097,  
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Sergeant, FRANK M. EARLE  
Company B,  
13th New Jersey Volunteers

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*Copied from a tin type taken after the siege and capture  
of Savannah, Ga., 1864.*



VAGARIES OF NUMBER 13 AS IT RELATES TO THE  
ORIGIN AND SERVICE OF THE THIRTEENTH REGIMENT,  
NEW JERSEY VOLUNTEERS,  
1862-1865.

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Comrades of the Thirteenth New Jersey Volunteers, Ladies and Gentlemen: The subject upon which I am to speak is quite unique, as well as restricted to within certain limits following the number 13, and its ordinal, 13th.

In tracing the history of the Thirteenth Regiment, New Jersey Volunteer Infantry, during its term of service, we find that very many interesting facts connected with its brilliant history during the Civil War are associated with the number 13.

The Thirteenth Regiment was organized in response to President Lincoln's call, July 7, 1862, for 300,000 men.

The number of the Regiment (13th) is coincident with the number of the original States that composed the Union, which was 13. New Jersey, in which the Thirteenth Regiment was mustered for service, being one of the original 13 States.

The Thirteenth Regiment rendezvoused at Camp Frelinghuysen, near the city of Newark. "Frelinghuysen" contains 13 letters.

The enlisted men of the Thirteenth Regiment received \$13 per month for their services.

On Sunday, August 31, 1862, the Thirteenth Regiment left Camp Frelinghuysen for the seat of war. The beautiful flag given to them "for the smoke of battle" was borne aloft and unfurled to the breeze, and its 13 stripes with a white star in a blue field for each State that composed the Federal Union, inspired each loyal heart with grim determination to preserve the Union forever.

With a patriot's holy devotion  
To their God, and their dear native land,  
They march to the war's fierce commotion,  
By the flag of their country to stand.

On September 6, 1862, the Thirteenth Regiment was attached to the First Division of *Banks' Old Corps*, which consisted at that time of 13 regiments. That night the Thirteenth Regiment broke camp on Arlington Heights, Virginia, and entered upon the Maryland Campaign, crossing the Aqueduct Bridge at Georgetown, D. C., arriving at Rockville, Maryland, the following day. From there the pursuit of Lee's Army was begun.

As many events of our army life were allied with the (hoodoo) number 13 from the beginning to the end, it is noticeable that our first march was on Saturday night, and *Saturday night* has 13 letters.

The Confederates under General Lee, flushed with victory and high



hope, had invaded Maryland. The initial movement of this invasion began with the march of two divisions of Confederates from the vicinity of Richmond, Virginia, on July 13, 1862.

Followed by the Confederate Army on August 13th, the serious fighting of the campaign, in which they had triumphed, began with the battle of Cedar Mountain, on August 9, 1862, ending September 1st, at the battle of Chantilly, Virginia, where Generals Kearney and Stephens were killed. This was the last battle of Pope's unfortunate campaign, and caused him to fall back within the fortifications of Washington.

Lee crossed the Potomac River into Maryland, on September 5th, at White's Ford, near what is known as Point of Rocks, with an army of 61,000 men, Stonewall Jackson's command in the lead. It is reported that when in the middle of the river, he arose in his saddle, took off his hat, and the army joined in singing, "Maryland, My Maryland," which at that time was a favorite song of the South. He moved to and occupied Frederick City, Maryland, with his army September 6th.

On September 12th, the Thirteenth Regiment forded the Monocacy River, and, strange as it may appear, the first river forded by the Thirteenth Regiment also has 13 letters.

September 13th, the Thirteenth Regiment reached Frederick City, and heard the first sound of battle, skirmishing between the advance of the Union forces and the rear guard of Lee's army. The sound of musketry filled each one with apprehensive feelings, which produced strange emotions not before experienced, and somewhat difficult to describe. It was not a very pleasant sound to the ear—and for a time there was ebb-tide in the patriotic feelings which inspired them when they left home a few days before for the scenes of conflict. One comrade remarked that "He wished that he was in his father's barn," which meant a long way from there, but those feelings soon subsided and each one was better prepared for what was to follow four days later, when the Thirteenth Regiment would meet the flower of the Confederate Army in the bloodiest one day's battle of the Civil War, at Antietam, where they bore a noble part. At its close 24,000 brave men lay dead and wounded upon this field of carnage and strife, being nearly one-fifth of all the forces engaged.

"Oh, Maryland, my Maryland.

From thy devoted sod,

What valiant men are called to stand

This day before their God."

The experience of the Thirteenth Regiment on September 13th, at Frederick City (which contains 13 letters) was just 13 days after they left Newark, New Jersey, to battle for their country. And it is nothing to their discredit if they felt a trifle skittish at the prospect of meeting the foe for the first time in combat, for many stout-hearted have quailed under like circumstances.

On the same day, the 13th, about 6.20 P. M., in the camp of the Twenty-seventh Indiana Regiment of our Brigade was found a copy of General Lee's famous "Lost Dispatch" No. 191, of September 9th, to General D. H. Hill, which gave General McClellan full information of



his prospective movements. It is said that "accident of chance" of this kind has been the fortune of but two or three commanders of whom record is made in the military history of the world.

September 14th the battle of South Mountain was fought. It was a brilliant achievement, a decided victory for the national arms. This was 13 days after their defeat at the battle of Chantilly, Virginia, and also has 13 letters. Union loss at Turner's Gap was 1813.

September 16th, during the night, Mansfield's Twelfth Corps, to which the Thirteenth Regiment belonged, crossed the Antietam Creek, and bivouaced about a mile in Hooker's rear. September 17th, at daylight the battle of Antietam was opened by Meade's Third Division, First Corps, consisting of 13 regiments "Pennsylvania Reserves," one of which was the Thirteenth Pennsylvania Regiment.

Meade was promptly joined on the left by Ricketts's Second Division, First Corps, which also was composed of 13 regiments. General Gordon ordered the Thirteenth Regiment forward. They moved along the Smoketown road, which led them into the smoke of battle.

It is a coincident worthy of notice that the "Antietam Creek," which the Thirteenth Regiment crossed to get to the field of battle, and the "Smoketown Road," which led them into the seething conflict, each contain 13 letters.

After General Hooker had been wounded and compelled to retire from the field, General Sumner assumed command and ordered Sedgwick to advance his Division, containing 13 regiments, to the right to support our Division, who were holding their ground against a terrible fire.

During the battle at the time of our second advance we supported Greene's Second Division of the Twelfth Corps, which consisted of 13 regiments. This was near the Dunker Church. In this charge the Thirteenth Regiment reached the wooded crest surrounding and extending north from the church, which was the key to the whole field in Hooker's front. This he had determined to take, but failed to do so. We held our position for about one hour and "13" minutes, and only retiring when assailed by an overwhelming force of the enemy. It took the boys about "13 minutes" to get beyond the range of the enemy's fire. The air was literally alive with bullets, and no self-respecting man wished to stay there. This was about 13 hours after we had crossed Bridge No. 1 over the Antietam Creek late the night before, but our movements were, however, a little more expeditious.

General Gordon, in his report of this battle says, "Having received an urgent call from General Greene, to send him any reinforcements I might have and could spare, I directed the Thirteenth New Jersey to support him. This Regiment, for the first time under fire, moved coolly and in an orderly manner toward General Greene's position; and I am much gratified to report that the General has spoken to me of their conduct in terms of high commendation." In another part of his report he says: "In this battle officers and men behaved with most praiseworthy intrepidity and coolness. The Thirteenth New Jersey (Colonel E. A.



but praise for their conduct. They fought like veterans, and stood shoulder to shoulder with those who had borne the brunt of war on the Peninsula, in the Shenandoah Valley, and from Front Royal to the Rapidan. They were led by those who inspired them with courage, and they followed with a determination to conquer or die."

Thus the Thirteenth Regiment became distinguished from the beginning of its military career. And it may be truthfully said that the Thirteenth Regiment New Jersey Volunteers never during its term of service in the army dishonored the high encomiums thus bestowed upon them for their gallantry and bravery in the face of the foe.

The battle of Antietam lasted 13 hours, beginning at dawn, with Hooker's First Corps on the right, ending at nightfall with Burnside's Ninth Corps on the left. There were 13 Major Generals in command of the Union troops engaged in the battle, as follows:

Major General George B. McClellan, commanding.

Major General Joseph Hooker, First Army Corps.

Major General Edwin V. Sumner, Second Army Corps.

Major General Israel B. Richardson, First Division, Second Army Corps.

Major General John Sedgwick, Second Division, Second Army Corps.

Major General Darius Couch, First Division, Sixth Army Corps.

Major General Fitz John Porter, Fifth Army Corps.

Major General George W. Morrell, First Division, Fifth Army Corps.

Major General William B. Franklin, Sixth Army Corps.

Major General Henry W. Slocum, First Division, Sixth Army Corps.

Major General William F. Smith, Second Division, Sixth Corps.

Major General Ambrose E. Burnside, Ninth Division, Sixth Corps.

Major General Joseph K. F. Mansfield, Twelfth Army Corps.

The town of Sharpsburg is near the centre of the battlefield, and from a population of 1300 furnished two full companies to the Union Army during the Civil War. This is the only battle of the Civil War where men lay 13 deep, as they had fallen in the conflict. Captain James H. Hope, who was on the spot, immediately after the retreat of the enemy, says: "At one point in Bloody Lane, 13 dead bodies lay on a heap, at other places lay two, three, and even five deep.

General R. E. Lee, commanding the Confederate Army at this battle, resigned his commission in the United States Army, April 25th, 1861, which was 13 days after the firing upon Fort Sumter, South Carolina, on April the 12th.

As has been stated, Lee invaded Maryland September 5th. His object was to raise a revolt in that State, ally it with the Southern Confederacy, seize Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, and demand recognition of independence from both the Union Government, Great Britain and France; but the battles of South Mountain and Antietam completely upset his plans. On September 18th he withdrew his shattered and broken ranks across the Potomac River at Blackford's Ford, into Virginia, under cover of night. This was just 13 days after he had crossed into Maryland at White's Ford.

On the morning of the 19th, when Mc-



Clellan had determined to renew the attack upon the enemy, he discovered that he had recrossed the Potomac. The Thirteenth Regiment moved that day, and it is a coincidence worthy of notice that as the Thirteenth Regiment entered upon the Maryland Campaign on September 6th, and that on the 19th, just 13 days afterward, there was not an armed rebel on the soil of Maryland.

Comrades, little did you think that when you crossed the Antietam Creek on the night of the 16th that you carried victory on your bayonets. The result of those 13 days of marching and fighting not only stemmed the tide of rebel invasion of the North, but inspired the hearts of the loyal people with new hope and fresh courage, and marked the turning point of the war.

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The Army of the Potomac, to which the Thirteenth Regiment was attached on the Maryland Campaign, captured 13 guns, also 39 colors (3 times 13). These were a part of the trophies which crowned our arms. The Thirteenth Regiment, on the march to Fredericksburg, Virginia, passed through Leesburg, December 13, 1862, the day of the battle.

With flags unfurled and bands playing lively airs, the proverbial unlucky number 13 was not a talisman of evil on that 13th day of December to the Thirteenth Regiment. Marching to lively music some miles distant from the battlefield was better than facing lively bullets. There never was a complaint made by any member of the Thirteenth Regiment because they did not have an opportunity of being engaged in that disastrous battle where so many precious lives were sacrificed to no purpose.

The Thirteenth Regiment went into winter quarters near Stafford Court House, Virginia, on January 25, 1863, and remained there 91 days, just 13 weeks.

June 13th, 1863, the Thirteenth Regiment started on the Gettysburg Campaign. On June 26th crossed the Potomac River at Edwards Ferry, then moved through Maryland to Gettysburg, Pennsylvania.

July 13, 1863, the Thirteenth Regiment with the army overtook Lee's forces retreating from Gettysburg, at Williamsport, Maryland. The Thirteenth Regiment was drawn up in line of battle in full view of the enemy, in position for immediate advance should the order be given. However, General Meade, after consulting with his Corps Commanders, decided not to advance that day, perhaps because it was the 13th day of the month (I don't know). His decision produced a salutary effect upon the minds of the boys of the Thirteenth Regiment, who had come to the conclusion that if they advanced there would be but little hope of escaping from almost certain death, and that in all probability there would not be 13 left to tell the tale. The enemy was well fortified, with an open field in front, and could clearly see from their fortified position the movements of an advancing column, and hurl death and destruction into its ranks.

September 26, 1863, the Thirteenth Regiment left Bealton Station, Virginia, with the Twelfth Corps, to reinforce Rosecrans in Tennessee, after having served 13 months in the Army of the Potomac, and partici-



pated in three battles, viz: Antietam, Chancellorsville and Gettysburg; one in each of the following 13 original States of the Federal Union, viz: Maryland, Virginia and Pennsylvania.

May 13, 1864, the Thirteenth Regiment moved with the Army of the Cumberland toward Resaca, Georgia, in pursuit of General Johnson's army. Late in the afternoon, the enemy making heavy demonstrations on the extreme left in an attempt to flank Howard, our brigade was moved on a double quick in that direction, arriving just in time to meet the enemy, who was charging upon Simonson's Battery, whose infantry support had broke and fled as the enemy advanced toward them. The timely arrival of the Thirteenth at this juncture, and a few well-directed volleys of musketry checked and routed the enemy, and saved the battery.

September 1, 1864, it was Captain Matthews, of the Thirteenth Regiment, who commanded the picket line of the regiment that night, received the first intelligence of the evacuation of the City of Atlanta, Georgia, by the enemy through deserters who came inside of our lines.

October 11, 1864, the Thirteenth Regiment, with other troops, went some twenty miles out on a foraging expedition and were very successful, and after filling all of the wagons with provisions, returned on the 13th without a loss, though constantly surrounded by rebel cavalry.

November 26, 1864, the Thirteenth Regiment, after an engagement with the enemy at Sandersville, Georgia, reached Tennille Station, No. 13, on the Georgia Central Railroad, and began tearing up the tracks and destroying the rails. December 9, 1864, 13 days after the engagement at Sandersville, the Thirteenth Regiment encountered the enemy commanded by General Harris at "Monteith Swamp," which contains 13 letters, and was 13 miles from Savannah, Georgia, the objective point of our destination. The Thirteenth formed in line in the Swamp, in water from two to three feet deep, when, the order being given, the men advanced in face of a fire from the guns on the fort, and when the rebels saw that it was the old Thirteenth Regiment in their front, they soon evacuated the works and skedaddled down the pike post-haste.

December 13, 1864, the Thirteenth erected breastworks in front of the rebel defenses near Savannah, Georgia. On the 16th the Thirteenth Regiment crossed the *Savannah River*, which also contains 13 letters, on flat boats to Argyle Island, where they found 13 houses, all there were on the island.

December 22, 1864, being the 13th day after the Thirteenth Regiment reached the defenses of Savannah, they marched to a point within the city limits, and encamped in Live Oak Grove. General Hardee having withdrawn his entire force from the city, after his only avenue of escape was menaced by the movements of troops under General Carman, including a part of the Thirteenth Regiment. During the march from Atlanta to Savannah a vast amount of supplies was gathered for the army, consisting of sheep, hogs, fowls, sweet potatoes, rice, etc.; also 13,000 beeves.

February 8, 1865, the Thirteenth Regiment marched 13 miles, crossed the Salkahatchie River at Beaufort Bridge, and passed through the evacuated works of the enemy.



February 17th the Thirteenth Regiment, on the right of the brigade, marched near Columbia, South Carolina, but did not enter the city; but a part of the Thirteenth Iowa Regiment crossed the Saluda River, entered the city, and placed the old Flag on the State House amid the cheers of the soldiers and playing of national airs by our bands. All honor to the Thirteenth Iowa Regiment for supplanting the flag of secession by the Stars and Stripes, which had been hauled down by traitorous hands when the ordinance of secession was adopted—

“She’s up there, Old Glory, no tyrant dealt scars,  
No blot on her blue field, no stain on her stars,  
But the blood of our heroes has crimsoned her bars,  
She’s the flag of our Union forever.”

March 13, 1865, the Thirteenth Regiment marched through the city of Fayetteville, North Carolina, in review before Generals Sherman and Slocum.

March 19, 1865, was an eventful day in the history of the Thirteenth Regiment. It fought its last battle at Bentonville, North Carolina, where General Johnston hurled his army of 40,000 men against the Union forces in a most desperate onslaught, and badly defeated the Fourteenth Corps, who were forced back in the utmost confusion. The enemy supposed that in driving back the Fourteenth Corps they had turned the flank of the army. Again they advanced with determined impetuosity. They were confident of success and moved forward in three lines of battle. It was a critical moment. If they are successful, the *Battle* is lost! But it was the Thirteenth Regiment, New Jersey Volunteers, who, by their indomitable courage, bravely and immovably held ground against the furious attack of a rushing, outnumbering foe; drove them back in utter rout and turned threatened defeat into complete victory. In their flight the enemy left their dead and wounded on the field.

The action of the Thirteenth Regiment in this battle brought forth commendations from Corps, Division and Brigade Commanders alike. Colonel Hawley, commanding the Brigade, addressing the regiment on the field, said: “You are entitled to the thanks of this whole army, for you have saved it from disaster.” Mr. John G. Foster, Historian of New Jersey Regiments, says: “The action of the Thirteenth Regiment in this battle was throughout of the most gallant character. Had the Thirteenth Regiment failed to hold its position, had their line given way, the battle must inevitably have been lost. That the enemy did not succeed is owing to the Thirteenth Regiment more largely than to any other regiment or brigade of the army.” Then and there in this fierce conflict they added another wreath to and making forever safe the imperishable laurels of its fame.

General Henry W. Slocum, commander of the Twelfth and Twentieth Corps, under whom the Thirteenth Regiment served during the greater part of its enlistment, paid this additional compliment to the regiment in his address at the dedication of their monument at Gettysburg, Pa., July 1, 1887. Speaking of the action of the Thirteenth Regiment upon this field said: “You came up at a double quick, and went just to the place you were wanted, and did splendid service, and if you had never done



anything more than that you would have been entitled to a hundred monuments like that before you."

It is co-incidental that as the first battle in which the Thirteenth Regiment was engaged, "Antietam," was in Maryland, one of the original 13 States, so also their last, "Bentonville," was in North Carolina, one of the original 13 States.

The Thirteenth Regiment was engaged at Bentonville, on the 13th day after they entered the State. And it is also noticeable that *North Carolina* was the 13th State in which the Thirteenth Regiment moved from time to time during its term of service, and is spelled with 13 letters.

Of the 13 States in which the Thirteenth Regiment did duty, seven of them were of the original 13 which composed the sisterhood of States.

The dead of the Thirteenth Regiment lie buried in five of the original 13 States, viz: Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia, Georgia and North Carolina. They are sleeping that sleep that knows no waking, they gave their lives that they should never be separated from the Union, "they died not in vain."

"Though they are dead to-day, I know  
You see their forms as long ago;  
You feel again the hand you took  
Perhaps beside the bloody brook,  
And said, 'Farewell,' whilst far and wide  
Around you rolled the battle-tide;  
You hear and feel, despite time's flow,  
The voice of 'Bill,' the hand of 'Joe.'

"God rest your hero dead, whom fame  
Has proudly linked to country's name;  
Sweet memory weaves for them to-day  
A never fading wreath of bay;  
We lay upon each stormless breast  
A love which many years have blest;  
The years that come will only prove  
How deeply flows the tide of love,  
And once a year the flowers will fall  
Upon the hallowed graves of all.

"So let them sleep that dreamless sleep.  
Our memories clustering around each head;  
Be comforted, ye loved who weep.  
They live, God, they are not dead!"



The following are the 13 States in which the Thirteenth Regiment moved:

Alabama.  
Delaware.  
Georgia.  
Indiana.  
Kentucky.  
Maryland.  
North Carolina.  
Ohio.  
Pennsylvania.  
South Carolina.  
Tennessee.  
Virginia.  
West Virginia.

The Thirteenth Regiment on their march through the Carolinas, crossed 13 rivers. They were as follows:

February 4, 1865—Savannah.  
February 7, 1865—Coosawatchie.  
February 8, 1865—Salkahatchie.  
February 11, 1865—South Fork of the Edisto.  
February 13, 1865—North Fork of the Edisto.  
February 17, 1865—Saluda.  
February 20, 1865—Broad.  
February 20, 1865—Little Fear.  
February 23, 1865—Catawba.  
March 6, 1865—Great Pee Dee.  
March 9, 1865—Little Pee Dee (or Lumber River).  
March 13, 1865—Cape Fear.  
March 24, 1865—Neuse.

It will be seen that two of these rivers were crossed by the Thirteenth Regiment on the 13th day of the month (February 13th, North Fork of the Edisto; and March 13, Cape Fear River).

The Thirteenth Regiment was engaged in 13 historic battles of the war, as follows:

1. Antietam, Maryland, September 17, 1862.
2. Chancellorsville, Va., May 1, 2 and 3, 1863.
3. Gettysburg, Pa., July 1 to 3, 1863.
4. Resaca, Georgia, May 13 and 14, 1864.
5. Dallas, or Pumpkin Creek, May 25, 1864.
6. Kulp's Farm, Georgia, June 22, 1864.
7. Nancy's Creek, Georgia, July 18, 1864.
8. Peach Tree Creek, Georgia, July 20, 1864.
9. Siege of Atlanta, Georgia, July 22 to September 2, 1864.
10. Buffalo Creek and Sandersville, Georgia, November 26, 1864.
11. Siege and capture of Savannah, Ga., December 10 to 21, 1864.
12. Aversboro, North Carolina, March 16, 1865.
13. Bentonville, North Carolina, March 19, 1865.



In addition to these engagements the Thirteenth participated in 13 combats and skirmishes of importance, and are officially recorded and known in military history. They are:

1. Cassville, Georgia, May 19, 1864.
2. Pickets Mills, Georgia, June 22, 1864.
3. Pine Knob, Ga., June 16, 1864.
4. Muddy Creek and Marietta, Ga., June 17, 1864.
5. Noyes' Creek, Ga., June 19, 1864.
6. Action on Kenesaw, Georgia, June 27, 1864.
7. Nickajack Creek, Georgia, July 3 and 4, 1864.
8. Chattahoochie River, Ga., July 6 to 17, 1864.
9. Montieth Swamp, Georgia, December 9, 1864.
10. Izzard's Mill, South Carolina, December 19, 1864.
11. Beach Hill, South Carolina, December 20, 1864.
12. Chesterfield Court House, South Carolina, March 2, 1865.
13. Smithfield, North Carolina, April 10, 1865.

At Smithfield, Martin V. B. Ingram, of Company I, was killed. He was the last man in the regiment who was killed in action with the enemy.

April 13, 1865, the Thirteenth Regiment entered Raleigh, North Carolina, the last city to fall into the hands of Sherman. Raleigh was to have been the Capital of the Southern Confederacy if Lee should be compelled to abandon Richmond.

The most prominent building in Raleigh is the State House, which is in a central location. Passing through the halls of legislation, attention is at once directed to the many fine portraits which grace the walls of the chambers of the Senate and House of Representatives. One of the most noticeable was that of Washington. This beautiful painting represents the Father of his Country in the attitude of guarding the Flag. It would seem that this immortal figure, although mute, would have overawed those who were daily plotting to destroy the glorious ensign of Union and Liberty, but it did not.

Thirteen days after the Thirteenth Regiment entered the city of Raleigh Johnston surrendered. From the time the Thirteenth Regiment left Savannah, Georgia, on the campaign of the Carolinas, January 27, 1865, to April 26, the date of the surrender of Johnston, was just 13 weeks to a day, and the date of surrender (the 26th) is a double 13, to cap the climax.

It is also worthy of notice that the surrender of Johnston brought to a close the 13th campaign in which the Thirteenth Regiment took an active part. They are as follows:

1. Maryland Campaign, September 6 to 20, 1862.
2. Advance to near Dumphries' operations near Wolf Run Shoals and the Occoquan River, Va., December 10, 1862, to January 20, 1863.
3. Second Fredericksburg, "Mud March," January 20 to 23, 1863.
4. Chancellorsville, Va., April 27 to May 6, 1863.
5. Gettysburg, June 13 to July 4, 1863.
6. Pursuit of Lee, July 7 to 31, 1863.
7. Meade's advance to the Rapidan, September 16 to 26, 1863.



8. Movements along the Nashville & Chattanooga Railroad to protect Rosecrans' line of supplies. October 5 to 23, 1863.
9. Relief of Chattanooga, mud bound on the Cumberland Mountain, October 23 to 26, 1863.
10. Atlanta Campaign, May 1 to September 2, 1864.
11. Sherman's march to the sea, October 15 to December 21, 1864.
12. Campaign of the Carolinas. January 27 to March 24, 1865.
13. Goldsboro to Raleigh in pursuit of Johnston, April 10 to 26, 1865.

The Thirteenth Regiment in the Atlanta Campaign and the Campaign of the Carolinas passed through 13 fortified cities and towns of military importance, which the enemy was compelled to evacuate, as follows:

1. Cassville, Georgia.
2. Marietta, Georgia.
3. Atlanta, Georgia.
4. Milledgeville, Georgia.
5. Sandersville, Georgia.
6. Savannah, Georgia.
7. Winnsboro, South Carolina.
8. Chesterfield Court House, S. C.
9. Cheraw, South Carolina.
10. Fayetteville, North Carolina.
11. Goldsboro, North Carolina.
12. Smithfield, North Carolina.
13. Raleigh, North Carolina.

On April 29th, the Thirteenth Regiment broke camp at Raleigh and started on its homeward march. And on May 11th reached Richmond, the Capital city of the Confederacy. This was 13 days after leaving Raleigh. On May 24th, 13 days after passing through the Confederate Capital, the Thirteenth Regiment participated in the Grand Review of Sherman's Army in Washington, in which they attracted much attention.

The flags of the Thirteenth Regiment, which had been borne aloft amid shot and shell on many hard contested fields of battle, from Antietam, September 17, 1862, to Bentonville, March 19, 1865, were frequently applauded by the enthusiastic multitude.

After the review the Thirteenth Regiment moved out on the Bladensburg road, about two miles from the Capitol, and went into camp. We were now through marching. We had participated in one of the longest marches ever made by an organized army in a civilized country.

The Thirteenth Regiment was mustered out of the service of the United States on June 8, 1865. This was just 13 months after they reached Ringgold, Georgia, on May 7, 1864, to enter upon the Atlanta Campaign. On Friday afternoon, June 9th, the Thirteenth took passage on the cars at Washington for home. And after a journey of 13 hours arrived Saturday afternoon, June 10th, at the Market Street Depot, Newark.



Comrades. in this short review of the services of the Thirteenth Regiment only historical facts have been recounted, and only the scenes and events which are associated with No. 13. Although the Thirteenth Regiment was handicapped with its numerical designation, 13th, it may be truthfully said, and history bears out the statement, that of the forty regiments furnished by the State of New Jersey to the war of the Union, none rendered better service, and none acquired more honorable distinction than the old Thirteenth Regiment, "Sons of Victory;" and furthermore, the Thirteenth Regiment is the only New Jersey Regiment that belonged to the only corps of the army that never lost a gun and never lost a flag. The old Twelfth Corps, commanded by Generals A. S. Williams and Henry W. Slocum. General Slocum became its commander the second time September 13, 1863.

The Thirteenth Regiment held their first reunion after the war October 13, 1886.

Comrades. 13th is a number indelibly impressed upon our memory, and sounds as if a part of our individual names. If in the Department "Beyond the River" they muster in regiments, we will take our place in line with the colors of the 13th.

In conclusion would say that I enlisted August 13, 1862, in the Thirteenth Regiment, New Jersey Volunteers, and was mustered into the service of the United States on the 25th, this being the 13th day after my being enrolled.

It is a coincident worthy of notice that the last engagement of the Civil War was fought May 13, 1865, at Palmetto Ranch, Texas, and May 26th, 13 days after a surrender of the Confederate Army in the Trans-Mississippi Department was made by General Kirby Smith to General Canby, at New Orleans, and the Civil War was over.



1921.

H. M. Hall.

6 Aug. 1921.

5748











